CAG's advice under article 150 of the Constitution

3025. SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some matters referred to the CAG for advice under article 150 of the Constitution have not been returned for years together;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have laid down any time limit within which the Comptroller and Auditor General should tender his advice on a reference made under article 150 of the Constitution;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) Advice under Article 150 of the Constitution is sought from the CAG as and when required. This advice is essentially in regard to laying down the form of accounts and there have been no delay in the receipt of responses from the CAG in this regard.

(c) to (e) No time limits have been laid down for dealing with references received by the C&AG for advice under Article 150 of the Constitution and the time for disposal in each case would depend on the nature and complexity of the cases and discussions involved.

Circulation of freak currency notes

3026. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that of late the circulation of freak currency notes is increasing in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details of freak currency seized during the last one year; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to investigate the channel by which such freak currency is circulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Freak currency notes, also called defectively printed notes, are rare in comparison to the total printed notes in the country. The 2 currency/bank note printing presses at Nasik and Dewas printed a total of 6754 million pieces of notes during 1988 and 3455 million pieces of notes in 1989 (upto June). Out of this, only 1229 notes were found to be defectively printed in 1988 and only 180 defective notes were noticed in 1989 (Upto June). The currency/bank note printing presses exercise minute control so that defectively printed notes are not despatched to RBI. Whenever instances of defectively printed notes are brought to the notice of the concerned presses disciplinary action against those workmen who have handled these notes at the time of printing/despatch is initiated.

New companies raising share capital from general public

3027. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of new companies which have been permitted to raise share capital from the general public, since 1985;

(b) whether Government are aware that many of the companies after raising money from the public have not commenced their activities;

(c) what are the number of such companies, their names and the amount collected by each of these companies;

(d) what action Government propose to take against these companies;

(e) what precautions Government will take in future to see that such companies are not floated and are not permitted to collect money from the general public;

(f) what steps are being taken by Government to direct the companies to refund the money so collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The number of companies given consents to raise initial capital and the amount consented is as tabulated below:—

(Rs. in crores)

1988-89	1987-88	1986-87	1985-86	1984-85
145 820.88	116 612.80	213 824.95	241 654.5	154 557.28

(b) Commencement of operations by a company depends upon a variety of factors and is not linked only to the raising of money from the public.

(c) Such information is not maintained.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Memorandum from Ramnad District Tin Article Manufacturers' Association, Virudhanagar, Tamil Nadu

3028. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Ramnad District Tin Article Manufacturers' Association Virudhnagar (T.N.) against the heavy guarantee fees charge Ratio; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to redress their grievance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir. The memorandum dated 12th July, 1989 received from the Ramnad District Tin Article Manufacturers' Association regarding increase in the guarantee fees being charged by deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (DICGCI) has been referred to Reserve Bank of India and DICGCI.

(b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that the guarantee fee payable to DICGCI has been enhanced with effect from 1st April, 1989 and the banks have been advised in May, 1989 to follow the following procedures:

(i) Banks will continue to bear the guarantee fees in respect of advances to weaker sections, pure consumption loans, etc. as hitherto.

(ii) In the case of advances where the banks charge interest of 16 per cent or more, the banks will have to absorb the guarantee fees.

(iii) In all other cases the banks will ensure that lending rate as stipulated together with the guarantee fees, irrespective of whether it is levied separately or not, does not exceed 16 per cent. Reserve Bank of India has further clarified in June, 1989 that these instructions are applicable not only to the SSI Sector but also to all priority sector advances and are applicable from 1st April, 1989.

चीनी मिलों को उत्पाद शुल्क से छूट दिया जाना

3029. **सरदार जपजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :**
श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या **वित्त** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार चीनी मिलों को उत्पाद शुल्क की वर्तमान दर पर छूट देने का विचार रखती है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ;